

# AVIATION

*The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine*

JULY 21, 1924

Issued Weekly

PRICE 10 CENTS



Navy CS torpedo scout (Wright T3 engine) in which Lieuts. Wead and Price made five new seaplane records

*Official Photo, U. S. Navy*

VOLUME  
XVII

## SPECIAL FEATURES

NUMBER  
3

NEW GOVERNMENT BIDS AND ORDERS  
THE BRITISH AIR ESTIMATES ANALYSED  
SIDE LIGHTS ON THE PARIS TO TOKYO FLIGHT  
INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR AIRWORTHINESS

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DAYTON, OHIO

JULY 21, 1924

# AVIATION

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# AVIATION

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Vol XVII

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No. 3

### A Continuing Air Program

EVERY one of the points in the suggested National Air Policy will be considered editorially. The first and most important requirement of any national policy is to have a clearly stated end, and then have it continue along certain definite lines until it has an opportunity to be given an adequate trial. The first policy suggested was "A continuing program of aircraft development both governmental and commercial." This suggestion is so obviously necessary before any progress can be made that it would seem to need little discussion, except for the fact that the United States has never had a fixed military policy and that it has allowed its national defense to be a structure of clay, molded by political expediency and untested civilian guardians. For many years the officers of our Army have made every possible effort to secure our national military policy, but have failed until the Great War to have any plan, which they could follow with any certainty as to its permanence.

As to the naval policy, until the time of Roosevelt, it was about in the same condition, but owing to the necessity of placing in advance for a fleet a more definite plan has been obtained than in the Army.

When we consider a national air policy, the situation is worse than having no policy. While efforts are being made to coordinate the Army and Navy air service ideas by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, not even the officers of the Army and Navy in charge of our aviation would claim that either service now has any continuing policy. They are leading a year to year existence, never knowing what Congress will do the next fiscal year.

To be constructive, the way to get a national air policy is for the War and Navy Departments to get together on their own differences on air matters, state a definite policy that they can urge Congress to adopt and then get all interests in aviation to get behind the program and have it adopted. This was attempted last year by the War Department, but the report has been approached somewhere and has never been made public. The most essential need today of American aviation is for the Joint Chiefs of Staff to formulate a clear National Air Policy, so that when it is considered by Congress it will not be neglected owing to difference of opinion in the services.

### The March of Aeronautical Progress

IN these days of dawn to dusk and non-stop flights from coast to coast it is interesting to recall the first successful trans-continental flight from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for it gives us excellent measure with which to gauge the progress of flying during the past twelve years.

The first coast to coast flight was made in the fall of 1911 by Lieutenant P. Rodgers in a "32-foot one man model B-2 Wright biplane" from New York to Pasadena, Calif., in a

total elapsed time of fifty-four days. Rodgers made sixty-eight landings on route and his longest hop was only 113 miles. The ship, a biplane equipped with a 25 hp Wright engine and with two propellers driven through chains, "crashed up" so many times owing to second landings that it was practically a totally wrecked plane that reached the shores of the Pacific. The skill and the determination of the pilot in conquering the varied pitfalls which beset flying in those days can well be imagined, and his accomplishment deserves to receive some lasting recognition before it falls into total oblivion.

What then seemed a foolhardy and useless quest to most persons has become a daily occurrence, now that a letter posted in New York in the morning reaches San Francisco via the Air Mail on the afternoon of the following day. Furthermore, the modern ship has been equipped in a way that flight by Lieutenant Kelly and Macready, and Lieutenant Douglas has now crossed it between dawn and dusk.

It is when we compare these latter day performances to Rodgers' gallant pioneer flight that we begin to see the true significance of the American and British record of world flights. Like Rodgers, these three are pioneers in a new field, and are laying the correct stones of the future greatness of air transport.

### Helium, Hydrogen and Sanity

CONSIDERABLE publicity has appeared in recent months far and against the use of helium for airships. As far as we have been able to discover, as one having the knowledge of working operations in against helium except for specific purposes where its use would introduce more danger than it saves.

In these paragraphs the same illustrations are invariably brought forth of the H35, the H36, the H37 and the H38, but omitting to mention the fact that the H38 catastrophe was due to structural failure of the ship, the H36 due to collision with the ground, and the H37 due to shortage of fuel, there being no conclusive evidence in the latter case that it had anything whatever to do with the loss of the ship.

If these rare and unusual accidents are to be used as arguments, it should, in all fairness, be admitted that none of them were due to the use of hydrogen gas. In all three cases the ship would have been lost in any event, and in the last case the chances with the less efficient helium would have been decidedly less.

Why not be fair both ways and grant that helium is a false remedy reduces the risk of fire, and makes it easier to save the crew if a fire should occur? Would also that helium provides a cruising range of only one-half that that can be obtained from use of hydrogen. Aside from serious questions that in the whole story and furnishes a ready means for determining which to use for any particular purpose.

# Side Lights on the Paris to Tokyo Flight

Constructional Details of the Berquet 19A2 and of the 400 hp. Lorraine-Dietrich Engine

The successful completion of the Paris to Tokyo Flight, in sixteen days, eleven hours, makes it now possible to estimate the technical value of this great performance. Owing to the fact that the flight was made from Paris to Hanko, French Indo China, in the narrowest straight alignment along the arc of the portion of Pellerin-Duval's itinerary which can be considered as particular.

The following particulars regarding the Berquet 19A2 plane were obtained by a correspondent of *Aéronautique* from the Berquet firm in Paris.

## The Berquet 19A2 Plane

The Berquet 19A2 is a single engined tractor biplane, which is almost entirely built of a new French superalloy—chromium alloy, called "Duralium." This material is used not only in the framework of the fuselage and the wings, but also in the covering of the fuselage, except for the rear and end of the entrance of the wings, where it is fabric. It will be remembered that the first biplane in the world, in 1903, was covered in the best deerskinning fabric of the Alps. This seems to show that for tropical climates all metal construction is essential.

The fuselage is built of tubular members which are connected with cross-bracing by means of struts in place of solid steel fittings used on the earlier Berquet planes. The covering of the fuselage is of very lightly corrugated sheet and is riveted onto a steel framework built up around the wings. As a result of very careful design, the fuselage has an excellent strength from the nose to the stern. The engine mounting bridle into this fuselage so that only the forward portion of the cylinder banks protrude from it. Owing to the protrusion of the nose, the propeller is not fitted with a spinner.

The wings are arranged in a "Vogelkopfe" fashion, that is, the upper wing is much longer in span and chord than the lower wing. In the mounting of the wings it is again evident that special pains were taken to reduce parasite resistance to a minimum. The rubber covers of two steel pins in the outer line of the fuselage, and there is only one interplane strut on each side of the fuselage, and there are no cross-braces. Ailerons, long and narrow, are carried on the upper wings only. The wing has a fairly thick section, giving an excellent L/D.

The landing gear consists of two streamlined struts, well spaced apart, which are braced to each other by a compression member, and are braced to the lower wing by tie-rods. The wheels are "spicer" castings and carry a shock absorber device on the hub. The tail unit does not call for particular comment except that the structure is built up of duralium members and is covered with fabric. The stabilizer is braced to the wing on both sides to form a "T" shape. The elevator is a balanced type.

## The Lorraine-Dietrich Engine

The engine fitted in the Berquet 19A2 is the Lorraine-Dietrich model 12000 T16-1, a high-compression model, having twelve cylinders in V formation. It is of the water-cooled type, and each bank of six cylinders is set at an angle of 60 deg. The cylinders are set in pairs, each pair being mounted in a separate water-pump, and are fed by the aluminum carburetors through the agency of flanges flared at the base of the cylinder.

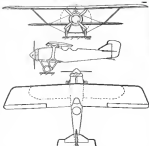
Inlet and exhaust valves are located in the cylinder heads, and are actuated by rocker arms operated by separate overhead camshafts. Each camshaft is driven from the crankshaft through a double set of bevel gears and an intermediate shaft located at the rear and (that is, opposite the propeller end) of the cylinder and parallel to the cylinder axis. Camshafts and driving shafts are mounted.

The crankshaft is of the overhead type, the forward end projecting through the engine housing formed to receive the central propeller shaft fitting.

The connecting rods are of the semi-rigidly articulated type, having a large bearing surface. The crankshaft is of aluminum, the lower portion forming the oil pump, and the lubricating pump, located in the bottom of the crankcase, is of the crankshaft type without side-flopes.

Comprehensive ventilation is effected by means of a centrifugal pump, located at the lower rear end of the crankcase, below and driven from the crankshaft. All water connections are very accessible.

Two twin Zenith carburetors, of the spray and constant level type with adjustable nozzles, are employed. These are mounted low down on each side of the crankcase, the induction pipes passing up from the carburetors between the cylinders to the manifold in the inner side of the cylinder. Ventilation is by two high-pressure suction driven by gears of the forward or propeller end of the crankshaft. The distribution is mounted on the ends of the crankshaft. An engine starting system is provided, this being of the vacuum air type, the distributor for which is mounted on the rear end of the crankshaft.



Outline drawings of the Berquet 19A2 convertible day bomber and corps observation plane

end of one of the camshafts. Provision is made for driving the engine induction, collector and the mixture gas outlet from overboard on the carburetor flange.

The following are specifications of the 400 hp. Lorraine-Dietrich engine:

Power	400 hp. (298.3 kw.)
Rev. (maximum)	2,400 rev. (156.25 r.p.m.)
Stroke (maximum)	14.6 in. (370 mm.)
Bore (maximum)	5.9 in. (149.8 mm.)
Weight (with major accessories)	440 lb. (199.6 kg.)
Length overall	45.7 in. (116.9 cm.)
Width overall	41.3 in. (104.9 cm.)
Height overall	33.5 in. (851 mm.)
Specific consumption	0.225 lb. (0.102 kg.) per hp. per hr.
Oil consumption	12.5 gal. (47.3 l.) per hr.

May 15, 1934

AVIATION

775

The fuel tanks are made of sheet duralium. The cooling is effected from an angled bottom—reflector of the radiator type which weighs, filled with water, 160 lb. Its total area is 232 sq. in. and its capacity 3.7 gal. The specifications of the carburetors are as follows:

Size	1 1/2 in.
Weight	40 lb. (18.1 kg.)
Rev. (maximum)	2,400 rev. (156.25 r.p.m.)
Stroke (maximum)	14.6 in. (370 mm.)
Bore (maximum)	5.9 in. (149.8 mm.)
Weight (with major accessories)	440 lb. (199.6 kg.)
Length overall	45.7 in. (116.9 cm.)
Width overall	41.3 in. (104.9 cm.)
Height overall	33.5 in. (851 mm.)
Specific consumption	0.225 lb. (0.102 kg.) per hp. per hr.
Oil consumption	12.5 gal. (47.3 l.) per hr.

The above constructional details and specifications show that very determined and apparently successful effort was made in the design of this machine to obtain maximum performance through a combination of excellent aerodynamics.



In diamond miles entered in fourteen days and 90 flying hours—The Berquet 19A2 day bomber (400 hp. Lorraine-Dietrich engine) on which Lieut. Pellerin Duval and Sergt. Bernard Boon (standing) flew from Paris, France, to Shanghai, China

long, and new materials and methods of construction. While the specifications of the Dietrich engine are not known, it is understood that it is much lighter, all other things being equal than the more common copper aluminum alloy used in standard construction.

## Duval's Long Range Machine

Coming now to the story of the Paris to Tokyo flight, it is of interest to learn that the French air department had used last year to organize for 1934 a round the world flight for which two engines were to be designed. In addition it was planned to have another similar effort what was called a "raced engine" between France and French Indo-China. Owing to financial difficulties, only the latter project has been carried out, but in order to give it a greater propaganda value, it was decided to let Duval push on to China, and Japan provided the equipment was fitted in serviceable condition upon being introduced in Japan.

Although the first newspaper reports were to the effect that this was a "rough and tumble" venture with no preliminary preparation, this was not entirely accurate. While it is true that Duval had no definite preparation for him whose he would change his engine, so that he had to rely upon the same power plant for a flight of some 6,000 mi., as the other had in French air department made arrangements with the Dietrich firm to be over to give him the benefit of their engineering and also other forwarding services. All his preparations received agreed willingly and it may be said in another spirit of American sportsmanship that his 100 flying experience authorized the French fleet to make one of the first flights had cut on one itinerary. The meteorological conditions of the route were very un-

favorable, which the French air department as a result of which it was found that the most favorable season for making the flight extended from April 15 to May 15. The stopping places were selected primarily with reference to the cruising range of the machine, which led to the adoption of 750 mi. sections, except where practical considerations dictated a different course.

The plane selected was a stock model day bomber, taken from the general aviation reserve. In view of the large cruising range desired and virtual impossibility from gas, a tankage, the following modifications were made. First, the bombing gear, which on the military machine is situated left of the prop, was replaced by a fuel tank of 345 liters capacity, which, with the standard fuel tank of the engine capacity, and a third tank of 215 liters, gave a total capacity of 930 liters, weighing 1450 lb. Second, as a standard tank of 350 liters capacity was fitted, making 120 liters in all, the standard fuel tank of the engine (its travel tank) was removed and a larger tank was added with a small window on one side was substituted therefor.



The particular change actually added to the speed of the machine, for in flight the machine would not be able to cover over its head so that the structure of the fuselage only was interrupted, and that very slightly, by the pilot's cockpit. It may be imagined that in the original intention the construction plan was rather more and stiffer, as may be gathered from one of Duval's letters, where he states that this is "an open festival." In addition to the above changes, comfortable seats were provided for both pilot and mechanic, and a very comprehensive assortment of spare parts, together with a repair kit, were placed in a lead box. The spare parts for the plane included the following: one wheel, four tires, four shock absorbers, two tail wheel shock absorbers, and one rubber. The engine spare parts were as follows: One propeller, two carburetors, two oil pumps, two magnets, and pistons, valves and spark plugs. In addition there was on board a small stock of sheet duralium and 650 rivets for repair to the fuselage covering, with the necessary tools.

This equipped Duval's Berquet had a high speed of 130 mi./hr. and a cruising range of approximately 1,000 mi. at a speed of 120 mi./hr. The safety factor is 8 to 1 against 11 for the day bomber.

## Practical Lessons of the Flight

It is interesting to note in the above long flight the great improvement in cruising range the post-war Berquet 19A2, which was used as far as Shanghai, represents with respect to the Berquet 19A2, the well known old war horse of 1914. While the average normal cruising range of the latter is only 300 mi. with a 200 hp. engine, the new Berquet with the 400 hp. Lorraine engine demonstrated in the Paris-Tokyo flight that

It has an average cruising range of about 750 mi. This figure has actually been exceeded on some of the tests. The first leg of the flight, from Paris to Barcelona, was against a head wind, but this was largely due to a strong following wind. For the Paris-Barcelona stretch, covered with clockwise regularly in six successive days, the average fuel consumption (gasoline and oil) worked out at 1.08 lb. per flying mile for a cruising speed of 139 m.p.h.

This large increase in cruising range, together with an extremely low fuel consumption, obviously has considerable importance from the purely economical viewpoint. In particular, aircraft where economical operation makes it desirable to fly long stretches without refueling. From this point of view Duxy's flight is extremely interesting, for it shows that an aerial express service could be operated on regular schedules over stretches of from 500 to 750 mi. without intermediate stops, provided a fixed plane could be used on such routes as is the case on our transcontinental mail service. With planes having the characteristics of Duxy's, the service could be flown from New York to San Francisco in about 34 hr, a saving of almost half a day as against the schedule just contemplated. This comparison is perhaps the most telling commentary on the technical losses of the Paris to Tokyo flight.

### Log of Duxy's Flight

Following is a brief log of Duxy's flight from Paris to Tokyo.

Date	Particulars	Remarks	Time
Apr. 24	Paris-Barcelona, 1,000 mi.	1st leg	11:00
25	Barcelona-Madrid, 100 mi.	2nd leg	11:00
26	Madrid-Seville, 100 mi.	3rd leg	11:00
27	Seville-Cordoba, 100 mi.	4th leg	11:00
28	Cordoba-Málaga, 100 mi.	5th leg	11:00
29	Málaga-Almería, 100 mi.	6th leg	11:00
30	Almería-Granada, 100 mi.	7th leg	11:00
May 1	Granada-Jaén, 100 mi.	8th leg	11:00
2	Jaén-Córdoba, 100 mi.	9th leg	11:00
3	Córdoba-Seville, 100 mi.	10th leg	11:00
4	Seville-Málaga, 100 mi.	11th leg	11:00
5	Málaga-Cádiz, 100 mi.	12th leg	11:00
6	Cádiz-San Pedro de Alcázar, 100 mi.	13th leg	11:00
7	San Pedro de Alcázar-Huelva, 100 mi.	14th leg	11:00
8	Huelva-Porto, 100 mi.	15th leg	11:00
9	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	16th leg	11:00
10	Bombal-Oporto, 100 mi.	17th leg	11:00
11	Oporto-Bombal, 100 mi.	18th leg	11:00
12	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	19th leg	11:00
13	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	20th leg	11:00
14	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	21st leg	11:00
15	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	22nd leg	11:00
16	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	23rd leg	11:00
17	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	24th leg	11:00
18	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	25th leg	11:00
19	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	26th leg	11:00
20	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	27th leg	11:00
21	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	28th leg	11:00
22	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	29th leg	11:00
23	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	30th leg	11:00
24	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	31st leg	11:00
25	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	32nd leg	11:00
26	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	33rd leg	11:00
27	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	34th leg	11:00
28	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	35th leg	11:00
29	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	36th leg	11:00
30	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	37th leg	11:00
31	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	38th leg	11:00
32	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	39th leg	11:00
33	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	40th leg	11:00
34	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	41st leg	11:00
35	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	42nd leg	11:00
36	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	43rd leg	11:00
37	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	44th leg	11:00
38	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	45th leg	11:00
39	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	46th leg	11:00
40	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	47th leg	11:00
41	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	48th leg	11:00
42	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	49th leg	11:00
43	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	50th leg	11:00
44	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	51st leg	11:00
45	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	52nd leg	11:00
46	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	53rd leg	11:00
47	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	54th leg	11:00
48	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	55th leg	11:00
49	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	56th leg	11:00
50	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	57th leg	11:00
51	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	58th leg	11:00
52	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	59th leg	11:00
53	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	60th leg	11:00
54	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	61st leg	11:00
55	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	62nd leg	11:00
56	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	63rd leg	11:00
57	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	64th leg	11:00
58	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	65th leg	11:00
59	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	66th leg	11:00
60	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	67th leg	11:00
61	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	68th leg	11:00
62	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	69th leg	11:00
63	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	70th leg	11:00
64	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	71st leg	11:00
65	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	72nd leg	11:00
66	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	73rd leg	11:00
67	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	74th leg	11:00
68	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	75th leg	11:00
69	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	76th leg	11:00
70	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	77th leg	11:00
71	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	78th leg	11:00
72	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	79th leg	11:00
73	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	80th leg	11:00
74	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	81st leg	11:00
75	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	82nd leg	11:00
76	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	83rd leg	11:00
77	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	84th leg	11:00
78	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	85th leg	11:00
79	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	86th leg	11:00
80	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	87th leg	11:00
81	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	88th leg	11:00
82	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	89th leg	11:00
83	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	90th leg	11:00
84	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	91st leg	11:00
85	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	92nd leg	11:00
86	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	93rd leg	11:00
87	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	94th leg	11:00
88	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	95th leg	11:00
89	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	96th leg	11:00
90	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	97th leg	11:00
91	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	98th leg	11:00
92	Bombal-Porto, 100 mi.	99th leg	11:00
93	Porto-Bombal, 100 mi.	100th leg	11:00

\*Some of these flights were covered with several intermediate stops en route, due to the aircraft's average cruising range of the British 164. When the aircraft was refueled at intermediate stops, the total time en route was not affected by the refueling stops.

## The British Air Estimates

Their Clear Cut Presentation Offers a Good Model For Our Air Services

AVIATION has made a sincere effort to find out what the United States is spending on its Air Service and where the money goes. After weeks of work done in going through the annual or modified financial statements of the Air Ministry, a presentation based on its carefully considered "appropriate" and writing letters to those who might be interested, we felt that though we had brought in light certain facts, we did not have a picture of what we were getting for our money for and that there were inconsistencies and questions which made things very confusing. For example, we could find no direct appropriation for the building of the aircraft which cost \$10,000,000 had been spent on the Lockheed development.

### Figures are Infallible

In starting and planning this study, the first question was the British "Air Estimates." The figures are so set forth that even a Congressman or an officer can readily grasp their meaning. An hour's study gave us a better idea of how the British were spending their aviation money than did years of study of our American figures. In other words, the Americans who are interested in the development of aviation service feel their efforts and time working after and trying to reconcile a confusion of figures. The British put figures that are understandable and which afford a basis for intelligent criticism and helpful suggestions.

For 1933-34 the British began by giving some general heading or classification under which their expenses are listed. "Year 1" is "Year 2" is "Year 3" is "Year 4" is "Year 5" is "Year 6" is "Year 7" is "Year 8" is "Year 9" is "Year 10" is "Year 11" is "Year 12" is "Year 13" is "Year 14" is "Year 15" is "Year 16" is "Year 17" is "Year 18" is "Year 19" is "Year 20" is "Year 21" is "Year 22" is "Year 23" is "Year 24" is "Year 25" is "Year 26" is "Year 27" is "Year 28" is "Year 29" is "Year 30" is "Year 31" is "Year 32" is "Year 33" is "Year 34" is "Year 35" is "Year 36" is "Year 37" is "Year 38" is "Year 39" is "Year 40" is "Year 41" is "Year 42" is "Year 43" is "Year 44" is "Year 45" is "Year 46" is "Year 47" is "Year 48" is "Year 49" is "Year 50" is "Year 51" is "Year 52" is "Year 53" is "Year 54" is "Year 55" is "Year 56" is "Year 57" is "Year 58" is "Year 59" is "Year 60" is "Year 61" is "Year 62" is "Year 63" is "Year 64" is "Year 65" is "Year 66" is "Year 67" is "Year 68" is "Year 69" is "Year 70" is "Year 71" is "Year 72" is "Year 73" is "Year 74" is "Year 75" is "Year 76" is "Year 77" is "Year 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*A forward view from the Italian aircraft N1, shown looking in Fig. 2, has unusually comfortable accommodation. Fig. 4 shows a private cabin, Fig. 5 the passenger cabin, and Fig. 1 an engine nacelle. Capt. U. Nobile, designer of the ship, is shown in Fig. 3.*

part of the engine may have traces of fatigue or wear involving the accuracy of clearance or rubbing with part. Only subsidiary parts may bear such traces.

#### Additional Tests

Apart from the preceding tests and inspections every type engine shall undergo: (1) A slow running test; (2) An increased running test; (3) A thrust test. As regards the slow running test, the engine shall be adjusted to the international power and international number of revolutions, the throttle shall be gradually closed in order to reduce the number of revolutions until it is at the most equal to half the original number (dead slow). The throttle shall then be opened in order to return to the original speed. It shall be ascertained as the course of these operations that there is no stage at which the engine stops, or at which the number of revolutions varies appreciably with the amount of fuel admitted. It must be possible, moreover, to pass without difficulty in these sounds at the most from any one speed to any other within the approved limits.

The increased running test shall last for at least half an hour, half throttle being set at a longitudinal inclination of -15 deg. to the horizontal and the other half at +15 deg. at varying powers and varying speeds, ranging from dead slow, as defined above, to the international power and international number of revolutions. The constructor may, however, be exempted from carrying out this test provided he shows that the present arrangement of his engine ensures satisfactory combustion and lubrication at all the rotations included within the approved limits.

The thrust test shall only be performed in the case of stationary engines; it may be combined with one of the endurance test periods, and shall consist of a run of a total duration of 30 sec. under the maximum conditions of power and speed as in the endurance test. During this test, the shaft of the engine shall be subjected to a thrust of 2 kg. per hp. to the appropriate direction and under similar conditions to those involved in flight.

and shall consist of a run of a total duration of 30 sec. under the maximum conditions of power and speed as in the endurance test. During this test, the shaft of the engine shall be subjected to a thrust of 2 kg. per hp. to the appropriate direction and under similar conditions to those involved in flight.

#### Government Bids and Orders

The Standard Antenna Products Co. of Corp., Pa. (known to makers of Aviation during the war as the Radio Specialty Co.) was the successful bidder on 28 bids of communications, under schedule 2216, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Dept., for the Bureau of Aeronautics. The bids were opened June 17.

The Engineering Division, Air Service, McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio, opened bids June 18, under 128, for 120 supercharger parts, and under number 123, for 24 H4 bulb tanks.

The Dayton Wire Wheel Co. of Dayton, Ohio, was the low bidder on 1000 airplane wheels, 36 x 8, under Air Service Circular 123. The bid was received by the Air Service, Washington, D. C., June 11.

A bid was received by the Air Service, Washington, D. C., June 12, for remodeling 100 aircraft compasses, type 1 to type B, awarded and remodeling 400 aircraft compasses, type B to type B-3, from the Pioneer Instrument Co., 704 Lexington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

McCook Field No. 57, Bids and Awards—Bids received June 8, at 87, by the engineering division, air service, McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio, for 120 supercharger parts, and under number 123, for 24 H4 bulb tanks.

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#### Zenith Efficiency Cup

The second competition for the Zenith Efficiency Cup, held June 15 on the Farmington-Penn. circuit—480 mi. in length—was won by Pilot Fitch in a Cessna 407 tourist plane equipped with an 80 hp. Zenith motor. This ship carried a load of 100 lb. of total fuel consumption for the 480 mi. distance was 316.8 lb.

Pilot Rosenthal, piloting a Farmington personal monoplane equipped with a 75-hp. by Anson engine, was second place with a total fuel consumption of 172 lb., carrying a useful load of 482 lb.

Five other contestants who started on the race were forced down en route to various causes, chief among which were engine trouble, loss of one of the wings, and unfavorable, high winds and fog interfering with the ships.











## Publisher's News Letter

The news of the abandonment of *Amundsen's Arctic flying expedition* this year will have caused more than one official in our Navy Department to heave a great sigh of relief. As a matter of fact, the more details become available regarding this extraordinary venture, the more they seem to justify the doubts we expressed as to the advisability of having an *Amundsen* Naval pilot participate in this flight in an official capacity.

We remarked at the time that it would be rather odd if an American pilot, flying a German-designed and Italian-built plane equipped with British engines and French radiators, should plant the Norwegian flag on some Arctic territory which may perhaps turn out to belong to Denmark. Judging from recent newspaper reports, it now even seems questionable if the American pilot would have had a chance of planting any kind of flag on the Pole or on any ice formation adjoining its vicinity.

Really *Amundsen* is an explorer of international reputation. But he is also a patriotic Norwegian. This is not natural of a man who planned the Norwegian cruise on the *Svein* and who, in the *Globe* and who wrote an imperishable page of nautical history with his circumnavigation of the Northwest Passage in a 40-ton auxiliary cutter. How good a patriot *Amundsen* is in reality, appears from the fact that after Miesbach had agreed to Italy's official participation in the Polar flight, and had furnished the explorer with a third plane and the necessary crew, the explorer refused point blank to let the Italian plane display the Italian national ensign. Only the Norwegian crew would do. But Miesbach, who is an amateur in the game of securing national preferential, would not hear of this, and so the expedition came to a deadlock, even before financial difficulties met it on the rocks.

But, suppose that *Amundsen's* plan had worked out as it was planned. The three northern would have started out from Spitzbergen for the Pole—one with a Norwegian crew, one with an *American* crew, and one with an Italian crew—and all under the Norwegian flag. At the Pole the ships would have landed and six planes would have been left behind after the fuel was transferred to remaining fuel in the plane destined to fly on to Alaska, while the third plane would have returned to Spitzbergen carrying the crew of the sacrificed plane. Now, in case of *Amundsen's* patriotic feelings, and the fact that one of the planes would

have had a Norwegian crew, it is hard to imagine that the explorer would have sent back his Norwegian crew with the Italians to let the American pilot have the glory of the flight in Alaska and the possible discovery of the "Lost Arctic continent." In all likelihood, this flight would have been attempted with an all-Norwegian crew, and the Americans and the Italians would have been sent back to Spitzbergen with many thanks for their valuable conveyance.

This little story merely goes to show that European governments frequently display more astuteness than our own when it comes to safeguarding national prestige.

We wonder what the great state of *Gambel's*, who sponsored the *Amundsen* expedition to the extent of full page advertisements in the newspapers, radio talks and various other forms of publicity, is going to do to square its over-enthusiastic claims with the collapsed project. Many thousands of printed broadsheet post cards to be carried on this trip at one dollar each. Out of each dollar ship was probably taken the cost of the great publicity for *Gambel's*, and the net proceeds were sent to *Amundsen*, while the glib public who wrote post cards addressed to themselves on the strength of their confidence in the good judgment of the Navy and *Gambel's* will wait a long time to receive their cards returned via the Pole. There is an old New England proverb that ought to be remembered in connection with *Amundsen's* personal attempt to have *Amundsen's* future his venture. It runs to the effect that if a man gets the worst of a trade race, nobody can be blamed, but if the same man gets the better of him again—he has no one to blame but himself! This is the second time *Captain Amundsen* has failed to carry out his plan to plant the Norwegian flag on the North Pole, with considerable support from the United States. We hope that it will be the last. If the Polar region is worth flying over, we have our own planes and our own pilots who can do it.

Now that the Democratic Party has also included a plank favoring the encouragement of aviation, it is to be hoped that some progress will be made along these lines after election. Hugs seems to spring around in the breast of the flying fraternity, so it is not without the usual optimism that we look forward to the time when the Republicans and Democratic party pledges will be redeemed in a very practical manner.—L.D.G.

## A Suggested National Air Policy

*That a National Aviation Policy is needed by the United States is obvious. To get such a policy in concrete form AVIATION requested several thoughtful friends of aeronautical progress to make suggestive and constructive recommendations. Some of them are given below and will be printed each week with additions, amendments and such other changes as appear to be helpful toward the formulation of a sound national air policy. Readers of AVIATION and others can render us greater service to the cause of aeronautical progress than contributing their comments and suggestions.*

### GOVERNMENTAL.

A continuing program of aircraft development both governmental and commercial.

A civilian, charged with developing a national air policy, is needed in the Government. Aircraft committees in the House and Senate to hold aircraft hearings where civilians as well as government officials can express their opinions.

A detailed aircraft budget for all Governmental Departments, and an annual statement of all expenditures. An experienced staff of flying officers at the head of all governmental air defense services. Coordination of all procurement and experimental aircraft work of the government under one agency. Limitation of government manufacture to repair of aircraft and specialized work that cannot be done by private firms.

The elimination of the duplication of aerial functions and facilities by government departments.

A country-wide Air Mail system of trunk lines connecting the principal cities of the country. Establishment of a National Aeronautics System through cooperation of the Federal Government with States and Cities.

A national aircraft law that will regulate aviation, administered by practical pilots and experienced aeronautical engineers.

Membership of the United States in the International Convention for Air Navigation.

### COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT OPERATION.

Creation of commercial air lines by private enterprise or government subsidy.

Encouragement of participation by private companies in aircraft races and competitions.

Encouragement of the training of pilots by civilian schools.

Creating an Expert de Corps among flying men all over the country by frequent gatherings at aviation meets.

### INDUSTRIAL AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION.

Recognition that a sound aeronautical industry is a prime necessity of our National Defense.

An active industrial association that will coordinate the aircraft industry and defend it from attack.

Encouragement of the designing of new types of aircraft by manufacturers by allowing them to retain their proprietary rights.

Concentration of manufacturing firms on specialized types of army and navy aircraft.

Encouragement of research by construction, universities and other agencies as well as by the government.

Encouragement of an annual design competition for commercial aircraft.

### CIVILIAN.

A national aeronautical organization composed of public spirited citizens that will take a strong position of leadership in national aeronautical policy.

An Annual Aviation Week during which the country will think of aerial progress.

The formation of local aero clubs by three for the purpose of stimulating flying in all localities.

Encouraging the public to fly and patronize the air mail and transport facilities.



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